

Appl. No. 10/785,350
Amdt. dated December 9, 2004
Reply to Office Action of September 9, 2004

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 3 of page 1 as follows:

This application is a continuation of ~~pending~~ Application Serial No. 10/454,269, filed June 4, 2003, now U.S. Patent No. 6,723,071; which is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/808,626, filed March 14, 2001, now U.S. Patent No. 6,592,549.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 1 of page 11 as follows:

The guide wire sleeve 160 may have a length of approximately 1.0 inch, a distal outside diameter of approximately 0.122 inches, a proximal outside diameter of approximately 0.087 inches, a distal inside diameter of approximately 0.107 inches, and a proximal inside diameter of approximately 0.070 inches. The ramp 172 may be an ~~intrigal~~ integral extension of the exterior wall of the guide wire sleeve 160 and may have a length of approximately 0.090 inches and a width of approximately 0.50 inches. The ramp 172 may extend into the lumen 166 at an angle of approximately 30 degrees to a point approximately 0.14 inches away from the opposite wall.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at line 9 of page 11 as follows:

The guide wire sleeve 160 may be an ~~intrigal~~ integral part of the outer tubular member 140 but is preferably a separately manufactured component. For example, the guide wire sleeve 160 may be formed of injection molded nylon or polypropylene. If the guide wire sleeve 160 is injection molded, manufacturing artifacts such as hole 168 may be filled or removed depending on the particular application. By manufacturing the guide wire sleeve 160 separately, more manufacturing flexibility and efficiency are achieved. For example, the guide wire sleeve 160 may be made of a material that is not melt sensitive or that is readily bonded to facilitate connection to other catheter components using adhesive or thermal means. In addition, the guide wire sleeve 160 may be inspected prior entering the production floor to eliminate non-conforming parts and increase efficiency. Further, the dimensions may be controlled better to

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provide greater consistency at bond sites. These and other advantages not specifically mentioned herein may be obtained by manufacturing the guide wire sleeve 160 as a separate component, but such is not essential to the present invention.